

Saint Patrick

Catholic Church

January 7-8, 2017

Epiphany

Mass times: Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 10:45am

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Saint Patrick Increased Offertory Program:

This week you will receive another letter from Fr. Rossi. Enclosed in the letter will be a Commitment Card and Remittance Envelope. You will be asked to consider a specific increase to your regular parish giving. Please pray about this request and your level of commitment. This program is about sacrifice, about giving back to God, and about strengthening the future of Saint Patrick.

Next week, come prepared to make your decision and bring your completed Commitment Card. We will be collecting them.

While this particular request comes in the form of financial commitment, other opportunities to practice stewardship present themselves on a daily basis. To find out more about this possibility, call the Parish Office at 804-737-8028.

"Our goal is for each parishioner to increase their giving by 20%"

"Honor the Lord with your wealth." Proverbs 3:9

Message from our Pastor:

Good day all! By now everyone is back to work and through the holidays. You made it!

Just kidding. I love Christmas. It is a very spiritual time of year and very easy to pray during this time of year. Remember, it's Christmas until January 9th, the Baptism of the Lord. So keep those Christmas songs going!

Because Christmas was on a Sunday this year, we did not have the chance to celebrate on a Sunday one of my favorite feast days of the year, the Holy Family.

The Holy Family feast day is a time to lift up the family who was entrusted with the Savior – Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

I remember Fulton Sheen used to write at the top of the black board on his TV show, JMJ, which stands for Jesus Mary and Joseph. This was a way to 'consecrate' his work to them with a small act of devotion at the beginning of his teaching series. Small acts of devotion like that are good, such as kissing your cross around your neck before you put it on or making the sign of the cross when you pass a Catholic Church. Worship God constantly!!!

The Holy Family is very much needed today. In case you haven't noticed, the family in our culture is being annihilated. It is a terrible thing to see because without good families you don't have good people...most of the time. The family is the nest for raising children, and when there are rats and snakes crawling around and through the nest...it's a dangerous place.

What are these attacks on the family? They are very numerous. No-fault divorce run wild, the attempted dissolution of real gender differences, so-called alternative lifestyles (anything except one man/one woman relationships), pornography use, excessive greed or materialism, cohabitation, in-vitro fertilization, and the list goes on and on and on and on.

I hate to be Debbie-downer. You no doubt have enough to deal with in your life, you don't need to be worrying about the destruction of the family on a cultural scale. In fact, if you are like me, you have some or even all of these problems in your own family. It is the world we live in and it seems we (Christianity) is not winning the war.

But to that I would say a couple things.

First, never give up the fight. Proclaim the truth in season and out of season, as scripture says. If it makes you a hero, great! If it makes you a martyr, great as well! Never waver from the truth God has shown us. It is the truth that will ultimately make us happy, even if in a confused world it seems otherwise.

Second, we only need to do our part. God is in control and has chosen to save humanity. We cannot save ourselves, let alone the whole world. So we individually need to do our part and let God do the rest. Don't forget to ask him though.

Third, as I said, it is likely a lot or all of that bad stuff is in our family. We are not perfect people ourselves and our families are not perfect. But let me remind you of something very important. On Christmas we read that long genealogy of Jesus all the way from Abraham to David to Joseph to Jesus. Take a little time and read in the bible about some of the skeletons in Jesus' family tree. At times it's pretty ugly...in fact it can be downright scandalous. And that's Jesus' family tree!

The point is that no person, and no family is beyond redemption. Any family God can use to bring about great good. Any family God can work through to bring about the salvation of the world. This is our faith. This is why we are so devoted to God, because he is so amazing in what he has done, is doing and will do.

I hope your 2017 is off to a great start. I hope God makes this year the best year of your life thus far and blesses your family excessively!!!

Fr Rossi

News & Announcements:

Join us after mass: Please join us after mass down stairs for a special celebration of the Epiphany.

Thank you: Thanks to everyone who helped make Christmas and Christmas Eve extra special from those who decorated the church, those who served mass, and our talented musicians!

Looking for Volunteers: We are looking for volunteers to help with helping with our hospitality for after 10:45 masses on Sundays. Please contact Eddie Baird for more information and if your interested.

Weekly Church Cleaning for 2017: Please consider volunteering an hour of your time each week to help us keep the church clean for services. It is very easy and quick to learn; light dusting, floor sweeping, and checking the holy water dishes. Please fill out the form located downstairs over on the left side in a bright red jacket. You can also contact me directly at johnjlore@gmail.com or 804-513-7173. Thank you.

MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY IN WASHINGTON DC; Friday, January 27, 2017: For the 34th consecutive year, the Knights of Columbus will provide FREE bus transportation for people in the Richmond metropolitan area to attend the 44th annual March For Life Rally in Washington DC, on Friday, January 27, 2017. **Seating on the buses is limited and will be by RESERVATION only.** A Registration fee may be required; however, the Registration fee will be returned when you take your seat on the bus. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a Parent, Guardian, or Approved Temporary Guardian with written permission. Charter bus is scheduled for the following locations:
Church of the Redeemer, 8275 Meadowbridge Road, Mechanicsville, bus arrives at 7:30 am for pick-up and departs by 8:00 am; contact Ed Gillikin, Sr at 804-737-7628 or EdGilli@msn.com. Bus Captain: Steve Gerloff.
Church of the Redeemer bus will also stop at the **Diocese of Richmond Pastoral Center**, 7800 Carousel Lane, Henrico, (just off of Parham and Shrader Roads) at 8:15 am for additional pick-up and a brief prayer service. Marchers must check-in at the pick-up location at least 30 minutes prior to the specific departure time and **must bring a lunch, soft drinks, cell phone, hat, gloves and suitable clothing for weather conditions.** Bus will normally return by 6:00 pm.

2017 BOXED SETS OF ENVELOPES: If you did not get church envelopes please call the office, we will be happy to send you a set and updated our records.

Church Support as of 1/1/2017

Weekly

Actual	\$4,555.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
Difference	\$448.00

Year to Date

Actual	\$97,782.55
Budgeted	<u>\$110,952.00</u>
Difference	(\$13,169.45)

Attendance for 12/31 & 1/2017: 37/178

Baptisms: Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month during Mass. Baptism class for new parents is held at 1 p.m. in the parish hall. The next class will be held on 1/8/17. If you are interested in attending a class and scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner. Baptism information is on our website under the Sacraments tab.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): is the process where the Catholic Church welcomes new adult members into the Church. Adults wishing to learn more should please contact the SPC office or email Fred Powell: fmpjr2009@aol.com or Ryland Paxton: paxtonrl8229@marybaldwin.edu.

Visitation to the sick and homebound – If you or someone you know would like a visit and Holy Communion at their home. Please call the office at 737-8028. Office staff will ensure the information will be relayed to Visitation Ministry individuals.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Emails:

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BULLETIN: All bulletin submissions must be in to Michelle Dawson the Tuesday at noon before the bulletin goes out.

SPC Emergency #: 804-402-1221 - If someone is dying or has died and you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.